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Serial No. 10/583,967
Reply to Office Action dated July 9, 2009

Docket No. 1006/0123PUS1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An air flow regulating device having a housing and a flap arrangement with at least two flap parts for opening and closing an opening which are pivotable about pivot axes which run parallel to one another, each of said at least two flap parts including a first end, a second end and a midpoint halfway between said first end and said second end, the pivot axis of each of said at least two flap parts being located between said first end and said midpoint of each of said at least two flap parts,

wherein ~~end-regions~~ said first ends of the two flap parts bear against one another in the closed state of the flap arrangement, and roll and/or slide on one another during a movement of at least one flap part from the closed state into a partially open state or vice versa.

2. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the two flap parts is formed, at least in the bearing region, to be externally elastic.

3. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the closed state, the two flap parts are in planar contact.

4. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the two flap

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parts have a streamlined profile.

5. (Currently amended) ~~The device as claimed in claim 1,~~ An air flow regulating device having a housing and a flap arrangement with at least two flap parts for opening and closing an opening which are pivotable about pivot axes which run parallel to one another, wherein end regions of the two flap parts bear against one another in the closed state of the flap arrangement, and roll and/or slide on one another during a movement of at least one flap part from the closed state into a partially open state or vice versa, and

wherein a stop is provided on the housing in the central region between the pivot axes on at least one side of the flap arrangement.

6. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one side stop is provided on the housing on each side of the flap arrangement.

7. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the central stop and the two side stops are arranged on mutually opposing sides of the flap parts.

8. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flap parts have a coating of PP rubber or a foam injection-molded encapsulation.

9. (Previously presented) An air conditioning unit, in particular for motor vehicles, wherein the air conditioning unit contains a device as claimed in claim 1.

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10. (Previously presented) The air conditioning unit as claimed in claim 9, wherein the air conditioning unit comprises at least one of the following components: heat exchanger, radiator, evaporator, filter, temperature mixing flap, mixing chamber, one or more flow ducts and one or more control flaps for distributing the air to the outlet ducts.

11. (New) An air flow regulating device comprising:

a housing having an opening;

first and second flap parts for opening and closing the opening, said first and second flap parts each having a first end, a second end, a midpoint halfway between said first end and said second end and a pivot axis between said midpoint and said first end;

said first and second flap parts being shiftable from a first configuration wherein said first end of said first flap engages said first end of said second flap and said first and second flap parts cover the opening to a second configuration wherein said first flap part at least partially uncovers the opening,

wherein said first ends of the first and second flap parts engage one another as said first flap part moves from said first configuration to said second configuration.

12. (New) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first ends of the two flap parts engage one another by rolling against one another as said first flap part moves from said first configuration to said second configuration.

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13. (New) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first ends of the two flap parts engage one another by sliding on one another as said first flap part moves from said first configuration to said second configuration.

14. (New) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein in the second configuration, a distance between the pivot axis of the first flap part and the pivot axis of the second flap part is less than a sum of the distance from the pivot axis of the first flap part to the first end of the first flap part and the distance from the pivot axis of the second flap part to the first end of the second flap part.

15. (New) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein,
in the second configuration, a distance between the pivot axis of the first flap part and the pivot axis of the second flap part is less than a sum of the distance from the pivot axis of the first flap part to the first end of the first flap part and the distance from the pivot axis of the second flap part to the first end of the second flap part, and
in the first configuration, the first end of the first flap part is compressed by engagement with the first end of the second flap part.

16. (New) An air conditioning unit for motor vehicles including the device of claim 11.

17. (New) The device as claimed in claim 11 including a stop on the housing

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positioned to engage first portions of the first and second flap parts at a location between the first end and the pivot axis of each of the first and second flap parts.

18. (New) An air conditioning unit for motor vehicles including the device of claim 1.